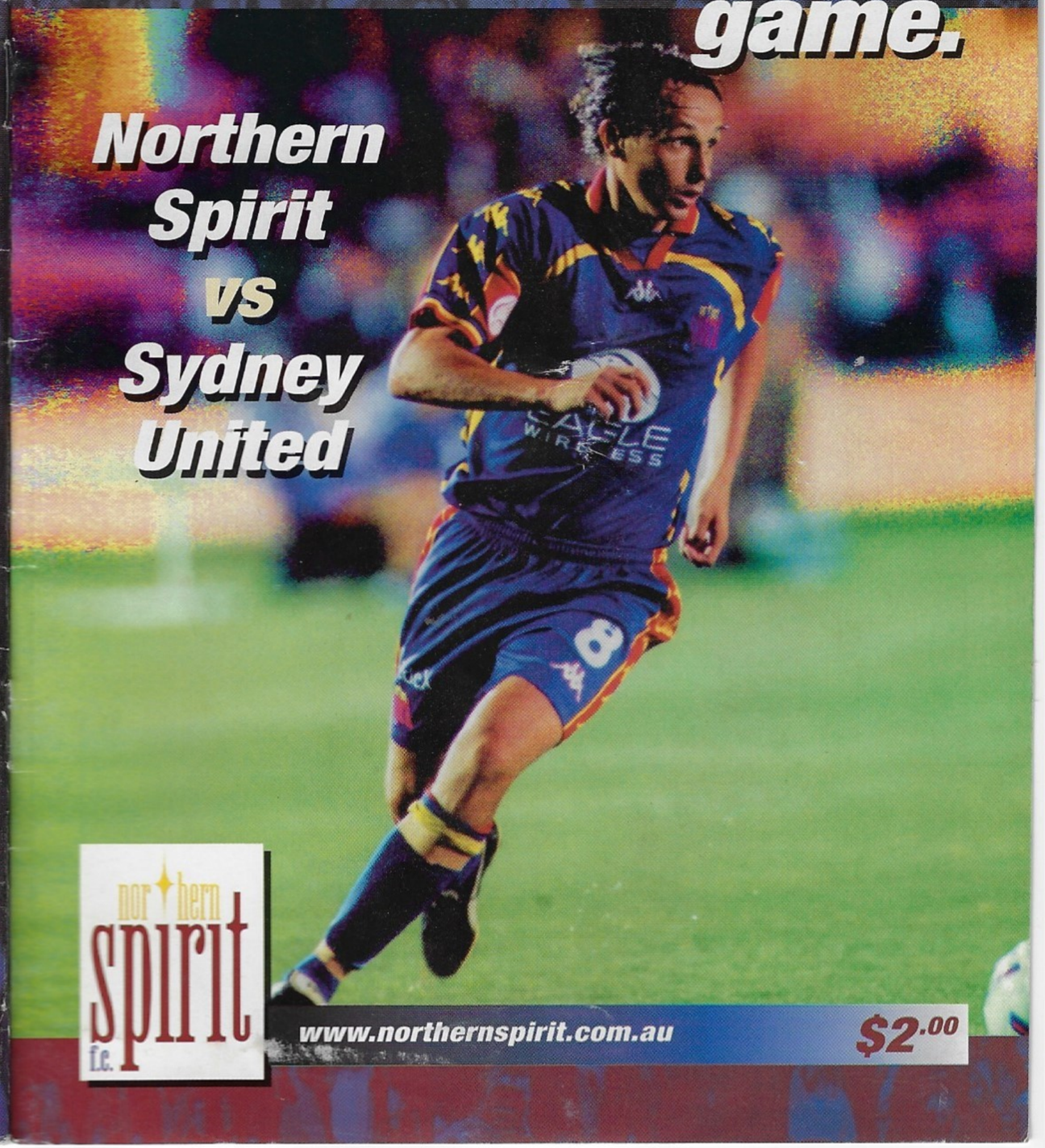
today's squads

NORTHERN SPIRIT		SYDNEY UNITED
John Perosh*	1	John Crawley
Robert Enes	2	Ray Younis
Matthew Langdon	3	Mark Racker
Matthew Bingley	4	Velimir Kupresak
Mark Rudan	5	Eddie Bosnar
Luke Casserly	6	Vince Savoca
Robbie Slater (cpt)	7	Mirko Jurilj
Tony Perinich	8	Nahuel Arrarte
David Seal	9	Mario Jerman
	10	Ante Moric
Troy Cranney	11	Tom Pondeljak
Simon Catanzaro	12	Tom Maric
Phil Moss	13	Matthew Zec
Shane Lyons	14	Kain Rastall
Tony Faria	15	Aytek Genc
Dean Culina	16	Joe Moric
Paul Bilokapic	17	Nick Bosevski
Paul Wearne	18	Steven Bozinovski
Graham Arnold (coach)	19	Greg Saric
Jess Van Stratten*	20	Steve Tolios
Michael Cunico	21	
Paul Henderson*	22	Colin Luff
Adam Snyder	23	
Elvis Olic	24	
Ryan Griffiths	25	Ante Deak
Jack Sobczyk	26	
Adam Griffiths	27	
Abbas Saad	28	
Ian Crook	29	
Sean Cranney	30	Brett Hughes
Coach - Graham Arnold		Coach - David Ratcliffe
Ast. Coach - Ian Crook		Ast. Coach - Mike O'Shea

Friday January 7th, 2000

The SPIRIT of the game.

Official Matchday Souvenir Program



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North Sydney, NSW 2060
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Fax: 02 9460 2183

Email:
contact@northernspirit.com.au

Website:
www.northernspirit.com.au

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Ian Crook

Club Physiotherapist:
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Youth Team Coach:
Gary Van Egmond

Colts Coach:
Trevor Morgan

Super-Youth Coach:
Sab Trovato

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Administration Assistant:
Danielle Kinsey

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welcome

GRAHAM ARNOLD COLUMN

Tonight we welcome Sydney United to North Sydney Oval and I am hoping that we have learned a valuable lesson from when we played Adelaide Force here three weeks ago. Like Adelaide Force at the time, Sydney United is sitting at the bottom of the National Soccer League table. Against Adelaide Force we did not treat our opponents with the respect they deserve and subsequently lost 3-0.

There are no easy games in the NSL. It is the same in every country. When you are playing at the highest level every team is capable of beating anybody on any given day. We have spoken about the need to treat all teams with equal respect and take every game as if we were playing Perth Glory or Sydney Olympic or any of the leading teams. Even last season, we managed to disrupt all the top teams but lost to Canberra (who finished last) and drew with teams like Gippsland, Newcastle and Brisbane. None of the above teams made the playoffs and we did not give them respect when we played.

Tonight we must respect Sydney United or we will find that our poor home form may continue. We need to be able to show the heart necessary to unsettle teams as well as play the football needed to break down their defence. That task will not be easy tonight with veteran stopper Velimir Kupresak marshalling the Sydney United troops at the back. On the opening day of the season we managed to break down that defence twice in winning 2-0. David Seal and Robbie Slater found the target and all looked rosy for the season ahead! After that match there was lots of talk about Top Six and Premierships but over the past 12 weeks that has failed to materialise. After going down to Brisbane, we have to settle down and start trying to put wins together. It is an old cliché but I think we need to start looking at the season as one game at a time.

Tonight we take on Sydney United, let's look after them before we start thinking about playing Perth and so on. One guy we will have to keep a close eye on tonight is young Sydney United midfielder Nahuel Arrarte. He made his NSL debut against us in the first round and looked like a kid with promise. Since that day he has proven several times that his form against us was no flash in the pan. He has the ability to swing a game with one pass or run and we will be mindful of the need to keep him in check tonight. It is always refreshing to see young players come through and we have had a few of our own this year. While the 2-0 loss to Brisbane was disappointing the form of Ryan Griffiths and Adam Snyder was promising. This comes on top of performances from Jack Sobczyk and Adam Griffiths, proving that Northern Spirit has the next lot of first grade players simmering just below the surface.

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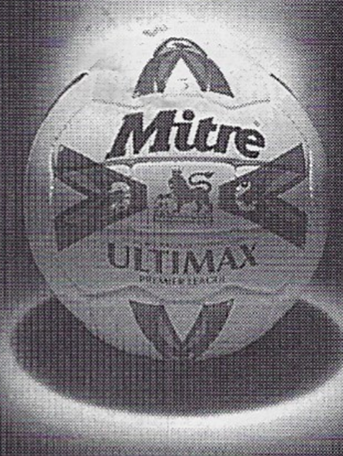

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captains call

with Robbie Slater

What do we have to do to get three points?

Although I had to leave the field early at Bruce Stadium, we performed exceptionally well in driving rain and came away with the three points, three goals and a tremendous reaction from the supporters. On Sunday we could have gone ahead in the opening two minutes, as we did in Canberra, and we played well for the opening 15-20 minutes. But instead of taking the early lead, we found ourselves chasing the game again.

I don't know what it is when we play at home but we seem to be playing better on the road. This isn't acceptable for our fans.

Perhaps it is the added pressure of playing in front of Australia's best supporters at Spirit Park and the trying to live up to the expectations of them by playing entertaining, attacking football that will net us a bag full of goals.

Whatever the answer is, we approach every game the same way and take the field with the same attitude as we always do, but at home fixtures it just doesn't seem to come together as it did in Canberra.

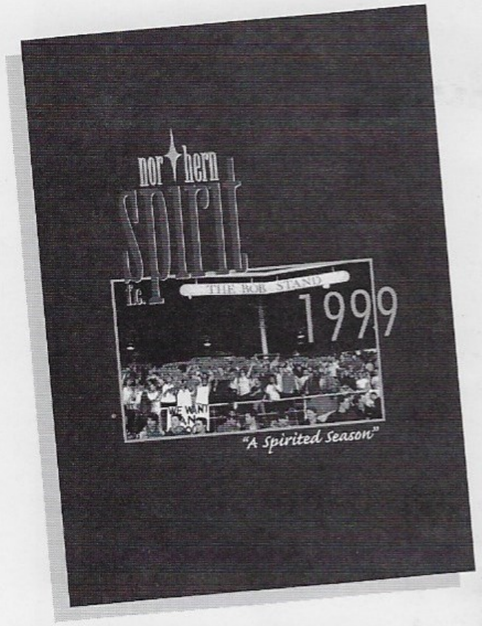
We will not be underestimating Sydney United tonight as they need the three points just as badly as we do and I have a sneaky feeling that it will be a massive game for both teams. I hope and believe we can pull this one of the bag and that it proves to be the catalyst that finally sparks our season into life. It would be about time!

I said in the last programme notes that we promise that if you stick by us, we'll do everything possible to give you plenty to cheer about in the coming weeks. I maintain that promise.

We need Spirit Park to be alive with plenty of noise and colour and to get that 'special' feeling back again. We need the support of the best supporters and only you can give us that.

On a less moribund note, I hope you will give plenty of support to the Matildas tonight as they tackle Sweden in the opening game of the Australia Cup, and I wish them every success in their pursuit of Olympic Gold.

a spirited season



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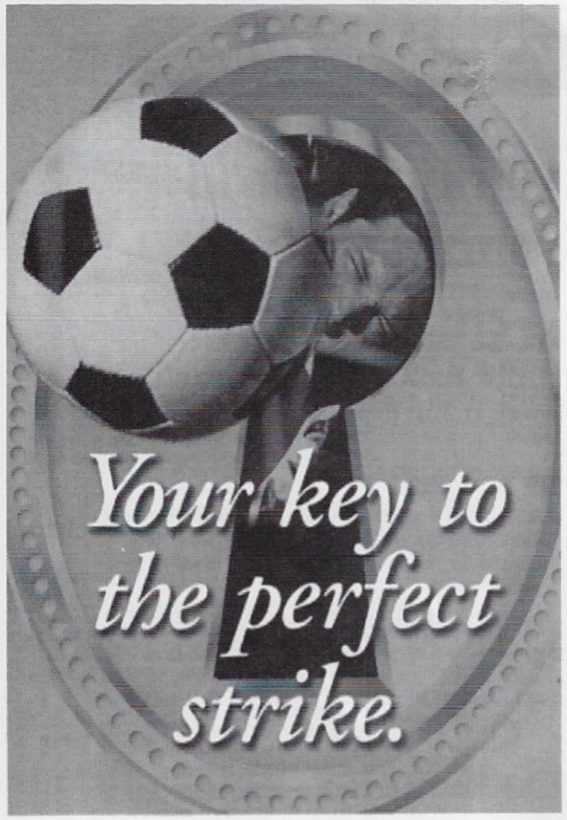

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john perosh

with Dave Mason

PEROSH KEEPS HIS MIND ON HIS GOAL

In the 1999-2000 Northern Spirit media guide when asked to list his highlight from last season, Spirit goalkeeper John Perosh answered: "None".

As the Northern Spirit squad assembled from pre-season training leading into its debut season in the NSL, Perosh was the firm favourite to stand between the sticks for the first match against Sydney Olympic at North Sydney Oval.

After all, the club was still trying to secure a second goalkeeper. His only competition was from an apprentice, plucked from the NSW State League.

As training bubbled along, the young apprentice was starting to open eyelids with his cat-like skills and determination to listen to every word uttered by goalkeeper coach Steve Watson.

On the eve of the first match, Perosh's worst fears came true when Graham Arnold handed the goalkeeping duties to Paul Henderson, the apprentice.

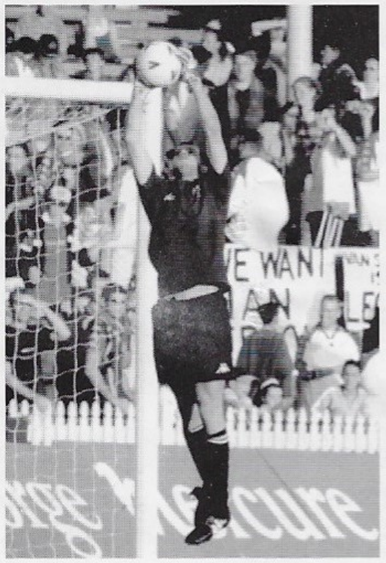
History tells us that he went on to cement his place in the side, play every match and walk away with the Northern Spirit Player of the Year Award.

During last season John Perosh was forced to watch on. He never gave up!

His motto was to train hard, do his best in the youth league and he had one promise: "I'll wait for my chance and when I get that chance I'll take it!"

He certainly has.

Leading into the round four clash with Brisbane Paul Henderson was feeling the effects of the flu and he was rested with Perosh handed his Northern Spirit debut.



Just like Henderson last year, Perosh has staked his claim to the number one jumper and has turned in some incredible performances.

In a side that has failed to live up to expectations, JP, as he is affectionately known, has exceeded his.

His first three matches at North Sydney Oval saw him pick up three consecutive Man of the Match Awards and he soon endeared himself to the Spirit Point faithful.

It is a testament to JP's attitude and commitment that he waited so long when others would have walked out, spat the dummy or asked for a release.

Not once did he complain and not once did he begrudge Paul Henderson his place in the sun.

Now the sun is shining on Perosh and we are waiting to see what he lists as his highlight on the current season.

One thing is for sure it will be more substantial than "None"!

2nd Australia Cup

Sydney / Melbourne / Adelaide

7-13 January 2000

Australia, Czech Republic, Sweden, USA

AUSTRALIA THE MATILDAS			SWEDEN	
g/k	Tracey Wheeler	1	Ulrika Karlsson	g/k
mid	Danielle Small	2	Karolina Westberg	def
def	Bridgette Starr	3	Jane Tornqvist	def
mid	Heather Garriock	4	Asa Lonnqvist Beland	def
def	Dianne Alagich	5	Kristen Bengtsson	def
def	Anissa Tann-Darby	6	Malin Mostrom	mid
mid	Alison Forman (capt)	7	Cecilia Sandell	def
def	Cheryl Salisbury	8	Malin Gustafsson	fwd
fwd	Julie Murray	9	Malin Andersson	mid
fwd	Sunni Hughes	10	Hanna Ljunberg	fwd
mid	Sharon Black	11	Victoria Svensson	fwd
mid	Bryony Duus	1/12	Caroline Jonsson	g/k
		1/12	Ulla-Karin Thelin	g/k
fwd	Katrina Boyd	13	Hanna Marklund	def
def	Sacha Wainwright	14	Jessika Sundh	def
def	Peita-Claire Hepperlin	15	Linda Green	mid
mid	Amy Wilson	16	Tina Nordlund	mid
fwd	Kelly Golebiowski	17	Linda Fagerstrom	mid
g/k	Leanne Trimboli	18	Elin Flyborg	fwd
	Chris Tanzey	Coach	Marika Domanski Lyfors	
	Ian Murray	Ast Coach		

fans eye view

by Tancred Fergus

On the 28th of December Northern Spirit made the long road trip to Canberra and to the many supporters who made the journey to watch a very wet game of Football I can only say well done. For those who didn't make the trip, you missed a truly memorable day. Of the 1800 people in the stadium at least 500-800 were Spirit fans giving the fixture a strange feeling of a home game. At least 100 of the more dedicated supporters stood in the rain for the full 90-minutes singing and encouraging the players on. Even the home fans enjoyed the rendition of "Singing in the rain". The looks on the players faces made it all worthwhile (not to mention the 3 points) and despite the long wet trip home, spirits were very high.

After the game it was interesting to hear both sets of supporters complaining about the standard of officials in Australia. For some time now the general quality and standard of both referees and their assistants has left a lot to be desired in Australia's 'Top Flight' and I can only hope that with the launching of the league next season, this problem will also be addressed. It would also be nice to see some of the mainstream print media looking at the poor quality of match officials in Australia. We are often reminded that there are over 600,000 registered Football players in Australia, making it by far the biggest team sport in the land, so why do we have such trouble getting competent referees?

Soccer Australia must also be aware that if the new league achieves the hoped for growth in crowds and media coverage it will only be a matter of time before the spotlight is turned on the referees, so it would be good to see action now, rather than in the future.

Tonight we host Sydney United at Spirit Park, who we met on the opening day of the season at Edensor Park and came away with all three points United are currently bottom of the table and a win at home tonight would see us climbing the table toward a Top Six position and with our next game at home to Perth Glory, would be a useful confidence booster.

It appears that Brisbane Strikers have become our 'bogie' side as we are still to beat them after four attempts. After last Sunday's game, our record now stands at: P-4, W-0, D-2, L-2, F-3, A-9. Still, we have another two cracks at them before the season finishes.

Finally I hope there is plenty of support for the Australian Women's Team as they take on Sweden tonight in what is the first international football match to be played in Australia in the year 2000. It is an honour, not just for the girls, but for the Spirit fans also. Let's cheer them over the line as loudly as we would Northern Spirit.

This is a fans page and, as such, we would like to hear your comments on anything Spirit related. You can contact us at: C/- Micky Brock, Northern Spirit FC, 15 Ridge St., North Sydney, NSW 2060 or for details of interstate travel, check out our website at - www.spirit.life.nu or ring our info-line: (02) 8250 4004.

IF YOU ALL LOVE SPIRIT CLAP YOUR HANDS...

. . . and contact Northern Spirit Supporters Club to join with matchday entertainment or to find out about travel arrangements for state and interstate away games (infoline 8250 4004).

The supporters club also organises open-days and other Northern Spirit Events for fans.

the charlie dempsey experience

The Spirit Related NSL Radio Show Run By The Fans For The Fans

Once in a lifetime there comes an experience that compels you to go to your window, open it, and yell out to no-one in particular, "You're stuck with Oceania, nobody else wants you !!". It's the kind of experience that makes perfectly sane people interject in pub football conversations with "everyone knows that hairdryers are more important than football". Ladies and Gentlemen, I present to you "The Charlie Dempsey Experience" the radio show that dares to show football as it really is – a funny old game.

Why on earth the "Charlie Dempsey Experience"? you may well ask. The title of the show came from the murky depths of my brain, scary innit ???!! .....and besides how could you go past naming the show after my pick for man of the millennium.....Charlie Dempsey, the man (reportedly) directly responsible for bringing electricity and other modern marvels to the pacific islands (NZ included), a truly remarkable man who has managed to stride like a Colossus through the 1800s, the 1900s, and now the 2000s !! Steptoe we salute you.

The show includes a wrap of all the NSL matches played that round, panel discussions on all sorts of "burning" issues, interviews with football celebrities and wannabees, quizzes, Northern Spirit Football Club news including Colts and Youth news, Luke Casserly's latest hairstyle, and Northern Spirit Supporter's Club news (bus trips etc.).

The Charlie Dempsey Experience airs every Sunday evening in a 'panelesque' form from 10pm - 11pm on 2000 FM in Sydney which can be found at 98.5 on the FM dial!! Hosts regularly include John "On the buses" McCormack, Adrian "Don't mention the Queen" Smith, Mixmaster TC, Tancredopolous (or Herr Tancred), and of course myself, Dr. Bross. (John & myself do alternate weeks in the studio....not sure whether this is by design or accident...in any case it works...). Technology permitting we can take your calls (97155400) and as long as ye dinnae cuss we'll allow you to have your 15-seconds of fame (or infamy as the case may be). In 2000 we'll be getting in some special guests so that we (and you by phone) can grill them.

Please be aware that we're not paid to do this...we simply do it because there's naught else to do on Sunday night at 10pm....and because we are sad, really, really sad!

Dr. Bross

team news

with Dave Mason

The recent road trip to Canberra confirmed what we have all known for some time - Northern Spirit has the best fans in the National Soccer League!

With the wind howling and rain bucketing down on Bruce Stadium a crowd of just 1,800 showed up, half of which was made up of Northern Spirit supporters.

When the players arrived at the ground an hour before kick off the Northern Spirit fans outnumbered the home support and it only evened out as the game approached.

During the match the rain did not stop but neither did the Spirit fans, braving torrential rain to stand and cheer the side.

An early goal from Tony Perinich helped them find their voices, not that they need any prompting, and not even Arctic conditions could drive them into the grandstand.

Sunday night was never going to be Northern Spirit's night.

After missing two matches with a groin strain, Abbas Saad fought his way back into the squad and was about to take his place on the bench for the Brisbane match when he injured his groin in the warm up.

It was an early omen that unfortunately came back to haunt the Spirit.

Abbas's misfortune turned to good luck for talented teenage striker Ryan Griffiths.

Griffo had just scored two goals for the youth league side in a 2-1 win over the Queensland Academy of Sport and was settling into his seat in the grandstand when the call went out for him to get his gear on and sit on the bench.

With 20 minutes to go the 18-year-old was thrust into the game for his home debut in the first grade side and he did not disappoint.

We have been reliably informed that he slept well on Sunday night after playing 110 minutes of football.

To his credit he did not stop running during his time on the park against Brisbane and his performance caught the eye of another striker - Coach Graham Arnold.

Northern Spirit takes on Carlton at North Sydney Oval on January 26 and as a special Australia Day treat the club has arranged for an Australian team to take on The Rest of the World as the curtain raiser to the main game.

The Australian team will be made up entirely of former Socceroos as we celebrate Australia Day.

Last season a Michael Cunico screamer handed Northern Spirit a 1-0 win over Perth Glory on Australia Day in front of 17,722 fans so let's hope for more of the same this year.

During the recent downpour the Spirit went indoors for a training session with a difference when Ian Crook arranged a game of basketball.

Needless to say that Michael Jordan's mantle is not under threat but there were a few contenders, or should we say pretenders.

Paul Bilokapic started well when he proclaimed to be Kareem Abdul Jabaar and pull off one the former Lakers star's famous hook shots only to see the ball smash through a window, well away from the intended target.

But stealing the show was Crooky's two young sons who showed everyone that a second generation soccer professional in the Crook household is under threat from the tall man's sport.

Let's hope they have some relatives with tall genes or else we're looking at some promising point guards.

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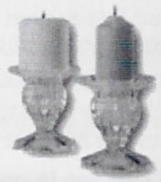

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Australia v Sweden

with Janene Mar

Australia's leading female football expert

AUSTRALIAN TEAM PROFILE

1st World Cup, China 1991 - Did not qualify
2nd World Cup, Sweden 1995 - 12th Place
Olympic Games, Atlanta 1996 - Did not qualify
3rd World Cup, USA 1999 - 11th Place
Olympic Games, Sydney 2000 - Have qualified as host nation

- The Australian Team is headed by National Coach Chris Tanzey, the former Assistant Coach appointed to the top job in September 1999 (twelve months before Sydney 2000) after the resignation of Greg Brown.
- The Matildas train together full-time at the Australian Institute of Sport in Canberra, a program which commenced in July 1998.
- Australia entered the 1999 World Cup in the USA as 'one of the most improved nations', but failed to progress to the quarterfinals and finished a very disappointing 11th.
- Morale has once again been raised under Tanzey who has introduced a higher intensity of training and new roles and system of play. The Tanzey philosophy focuses around technical play, keeping possession, understanding of roles, concentration, and building from the back. It is no easy task making changes, turning a team around, and introducing aspects of the game which are new to the players. The progress made so far and the renewed commitment and passion to the game is very encouraging.
- Australia is still considered a medal prospect at the 2000 Olympic Games.
- The eight nations to have qualified for Sydney 2000 are Australia, USA, China, Brazil, Norway, Nigeria, Germany, and Sweden.
- Australia won the inaugural Australia Cup a year ago, defeating Italy for the first time in the final at Bruce Stadium 1-0.
- The Australia Cup kicks off a busy Olympic year at home, and is a significant part of preparations with just nine months remaining.
- The Matildas' last clash with Sweden was at the 1999 World Cup, losing 3-1 which all but ended Australia's campaign. In their two previous meetings, Australia had been the victor.

AUSTRALIA'S RECENT INTERNATIONAL RECORD

		Australia Cup			
08/Jan/99	Australia v Italy	Sydney	1-1 (3-4 pens)	Loss	
10/Jan/99	Australia v Canada	Canberra	4-3	Win	
13/Jan/99	Australia v Italy (Final)	Canberra	1-0	Win	1st Place
		Algarve Cup, Portugal			
14/Mar/99	Australia v Denmark	Faro	1-1	Draw	
17/Mar/99	Australia v Portugal	Olhao	0-0	Draw	
19/Mar/99	Australia v China	Lagos	0-2	Loss	
20/Mar/99	Australia v Sweden	Montechoro	1-1(7-6 pens)	Win	5th Place
		Pre-World Cup, USA/Canada			
03/Jun/99	Australia v USA	Portland	0-4	Loss	
06/Jun/99	Australia v Brazil	Portland	1-3	Loss	
09/Jun/99	Australia v Canada	Etobicoke	3-1	Win	
12/Jun/99	Australia v Canada	Toronto	0-2	Loss	
		3rd FIFA World Cup, USA			
20/Jun/99	Australia v Ghana	Boston	1-1	Draw	
23/Jun/99	Australia v Sweden	Washington DC	1-3	Loss	
26/Jun/99	Australia v China	New Jersey	1-3	Loss	11th Place
		Australia v China 2-Test Series, China			
28/Oct/99	Australia v China	Zhuhai	1-3	Loss	
31/Oct/99	Australia v China	Xiamen	2-4	Loss	

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spirit away

with Micky Brock

Tuesday, 28th December 1999. Att: 1,863

Northern Spirit - 3 (Perinich 2, 73, Bingley 81)

Canberra Cosmos - 1 (Polak 50)

Through wind and torrential rain the Spirit faithful made their way down to Bruce Stadium for an important encounter with Canberra Cosmos. Numbering close to 300 Spirit supporters were in attendance to witness the side come away with a three-one win in atrocious conditions that nearly put the fixture in doubt earlier on in the day as the Cosmos ground staff had difficulty in laying the white lines down in the inclement, and un-seasonal, weather.

As the fans stood in the downpour to cheer on the Spirit, Tony Perinich rewarded them with a goal after two minutes, the first the side had scored within the first 30-minutes of a game in sixteen outings stretching back to the previous season, with a sweetly struck shot that rippled the back of the net.

With the preceding and continuing deluge, many players were finding it difficult to keep their feet on the sodden pitch, but despite the adverse conditions, Spirit were firing on all cylinders and threatened the Cosmos 'keeper - Angelo Konstantinou - many more times without result in the first-half.

To compound matters further, both Robbie Slater and Robbie Enes had to leave the field in the opening forty minutes, the latter being carried off, as both sustained injuries that could well see them out for a number of weeks.

On came live-wire Adam Snyder for Slater, who formed a quick and mobile front-line partnership with Perinich for the remainder of the game, and Michael Cunico for Enes, who anchored his usual midfield role. However, the loss of those two players, who had been inspirational to this point, disrupted the shape of the side and it took a little while to adjust.

With the second-half in its infancy, Jason Polak equalised for the home side as the Cosmos came out raring to go, when moments earlier it could have been two-nil to Spirit as Snyder weaved his way through traffic but couldn't find the final telling ball through for Perinich, always a menace to the Canberra defence.

Ian Crook saw his shot from distance shave paint off the left-hand upright before Perinich struck his, and Spirit's, second of the match in the 73rd minute and eight minutes later the result was put beyond doubt when Bingley speculatively stole into the area for a ball that 'keeper Konstantinou should have held comfortably. Sadly for the Cosmos he didn't and as the ball spilled from his grasp Bingley was there to gleefully pounce and knock it into the net from almost on the line.

With no way back for Cosmos, and the rain tumbling heavier by the minute, Spirit had another couple of chances but were never threatened again.

Well done to both teams on the day - Northern Spirit and the Northern Spirit supporters.

results & fixtures

RD	DATE	OPPONENT	F-A	SCORERS	HOME	AWAY
	OCTOBER					
1	MON 4	*Sydney Utd*	2-0	SLATER 53, SEAL 58		5,023
2	SUN 10	*Sth Melbourne*	0-2			6,917
3	FRI 15	**NEWCASTLE**	0-2		12,733	
4	SAT 23	*Brisbane Str*	2-2	BINGLEY 35, SAAD 90		4,009
5	FRI 29	**SYD OLYMPIC**	0-1		16,134	
	NOVEMBER					
6	SUN 7	*Wollongong W*	0-3			5,123
7	SAT 13	*Marconi Stal*	0-1			9,123
8	FRI 19	**KINGZ FC**	3-2	BINGLEY 33, SAAD 38, SLATER 83	8,933	
9	SAT 27	*Gippsland Fal*	0-2			2,172
	DECEMBER					
10	FRI 3	**MARCONI**	1-0	MOSS 58	9,089	
11	SUN 12	*Melb Knights*	1-0	PERINICH 83		3,820
12	FRI 17	**ADEL FORCE**	0-3		6,106	
13	TUE 28	*Canberra Cos*		PERINICH 2,73, BINGLEY 81		1,863
	JANUARY					
14	SUN 2	**BRISBANE**	0-2		6,714	
15	FRI 7	**SYD UTD**				
16	FRI 14	**PERTH GL**				
17	FRI 21	*Carlton*				
18	WED 26	**CARLTON**				
19	FRI 28	*Parra Power*				
	FEBRUARY					
20	FRI 4	**STH MELB**				
21	FRI 11	*Newcastle Bre*				
22	FRI 22	**BRISBANE**				
23	SUN 27	*Syd Olympic*				
	MARCH					
24	FRI 3	**W'GONG W**				
25	FRI 10	**MARCONI**				
26	FRI 17	*Kingz FC*				
27	FRI 24	**GIPPSLAND F**				
	APRIL					
28	SUN 2	*Marconi Stal*				
29	FRI 7	**MELB KNIGHTS**				
30	FRI 14	*Adelaide Force*				
31	THU 20	**CANBERRA**				
32	TUE 25	*Brisbane Strikers*				
33	FRI 28	**PARRA POWER**				
	MAY					
34	SUN 7	*Perth Glory*				

HOME MATCHES *- Away matches*

first team statistics

ROUND 14 TABLE

HOME	P	W	D	L	F	A	PTS	AVG ATT
Syd Olympic	14	9	3	2	24	11	30	5876
Wollongong	15	7	5	3	29	22	26	4025
Newcastle Brks	14	7	5	2	19	17	26	5240
Carlton	13	7	4	2	26	13	25	3029
Perth Glory	14	7	4	3	28	17	25	13149
Brisbane Str	14	7	4	3	21	13	25	4060
Marconi Stal	14	7	2	5	19	18	23	5747
Football Kingz	14	5	4	5	25	26	19	4250
Sth Melbourne	14	5	3	6	22	21	18	7805
Gippsland Fal	14	4	5	5	10	14	17	2187
Nthrn Spirit	14	5	1	8	12	21	16	9951
Parra Power	14	4	3	7	23	26	15	6323
Adelaide Force	14	3	5	6	14	17	14	5116
Melb Knights	14	4	1	9	14	27	13	3734
Canberra Cos	14	3	2	9	17	28	11	3035
Sydney Utd	14	2	3	9	8	20	9	3655

APPEARANCES

						NSL TOTALS	
	APS	SUB	GLS	Y/C	R/C	APS	GLS
P Henderson*	3	-	-	-	-	33	-
R Enes	9	-	-	1	1	99	1
M Langdon	8	-	-	1	-	31	-
M Bingley	13	-	3	1	-	211	39
M Rudan	9	1	-	4	-	88	8
L Casserly	10	-	-	2	-	149	3
R Slater	9	-	2	2	-	225	55
T Perinich	5	3	3	-	-	78	22
D Seal	8	2	1	1	-	113	59
T Cranney	13	-	-	1	-	214	16
S Catanzaro	-	4	-	-	-	4	-
P Bilokapic	9	1	-	3	-	128	11
G Arnold	5	1	-	-	-	211	72
J Perosh*	11	-	-	-	-	41	-
M Cunico	2	10	-	2	-	32	1
J Sobczyk	9	1	-	-	-	11	-
A Saad	6	3	2	-	-	184	52
S Cranney	2	2	-	-	-	133	16
I Crook	5	-	-	1	-	17	2
C Zane	3	-	-	1	-	100	20
P Moss	3	4	1	1	-	27	1
A Faria	1	1	-	-	-	5	-
R Griffiths	1	1	-	-	-	2	-
A Grffiths	6	-	-	1	-	6	-
D Culina	2	1	-	-	-	6	-
S Lyons	2	2	-	1	-	5	-
A Snyder	-	2	-	-	-	4	-

SVM VOLVO SHOOT-OUT

Tonight at half-time catch the SCUDERIA VELOCE VOLVO SHOOT-OUT.

For a chance to take part in the SCUDERIA VELOCE VOLVO SHOOT-OUT at the next home game, fill out an form available from the Northern Spirit match day volunteers and place it in the entry box located at the main concourse stairs.

The winner from each SCUDERIA VELOCE VOLVO SHOOT-OUT will win the use of a Volvo S40 1.8 for the weekend, and will go into the Grand Final, which will be held at the last home game of the season, against Parramatta Power on Friday, 28th April 2000.

THE FIRST PERSON TO KICK THE BALL THROUGH THE NOMINATED HOLE WILL WIN A VOLVO S40 1.8 MANUAL SEDAN VALUED AT $44,935.

For more information or to arrange a test-drive in the Volvo range please call
SCUDERIA VELOCE MOTORS
at Lindfield on 02 9416 0000, or drop in to see us at 283 Pacific Highway, Lindfield.

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spirit at home

with Micky Brock

Sunday, 2nd January 2000. Att: 6,714
Northern Spirit - 0
Brisbane Strikers - 2 (McLaren 20, Grierson 29)

Northern Spirit's indifferent home form continued with a nil-two defeat at the hands of Brisbane Strikers last Sunday evening.

It took Spirit to eight defeats this season and has the pundits predicting that the team will be hard-pressed to reach the play-offs, if at all this year.

In similar circumstances to Perth Glory in their second season, Spirit are finding it hard to come up with the points at home and is something that needs to be sorted out, and fast.

Ian Crook heads clear

After a dazzling display in the rain at Canberra the previous week, Spirit were undone in the first 30-minutes of the first-half as Stuart McLaren (20) and Peter Grierson (29) destroyed the new year hopes of the home crowd.

Firstly McLaren, the robust defender, was allowed the keys to penalty box (if not the city) when registering the Strikers lead with a fierce header, quickly followed by Grierson's effort. Again allowed plenty of time and space in the box, Grierson collected the lofty pass of Andrew Davidson to fire a shot beyond the attentions of John Perosh in the Spirit goal.

Spirit should have taken the lead in the first two minutes when David Seal and Tony Perinich combined beautifully to work a terrific opening. Seal collected the ball on the right from a Robbie Slater pass and sent in a low hard cross that Perinich took first time with his right foot but unfortunately directed straight at Clint Bolton in the Strikers goal. Hindsight, being a wonderful ally of journalists, perhaps a left footed strike would have been the better option.

Indeed, the home side had by far the better of the opening exchanges but turning superiority into goals remains a worry trend.

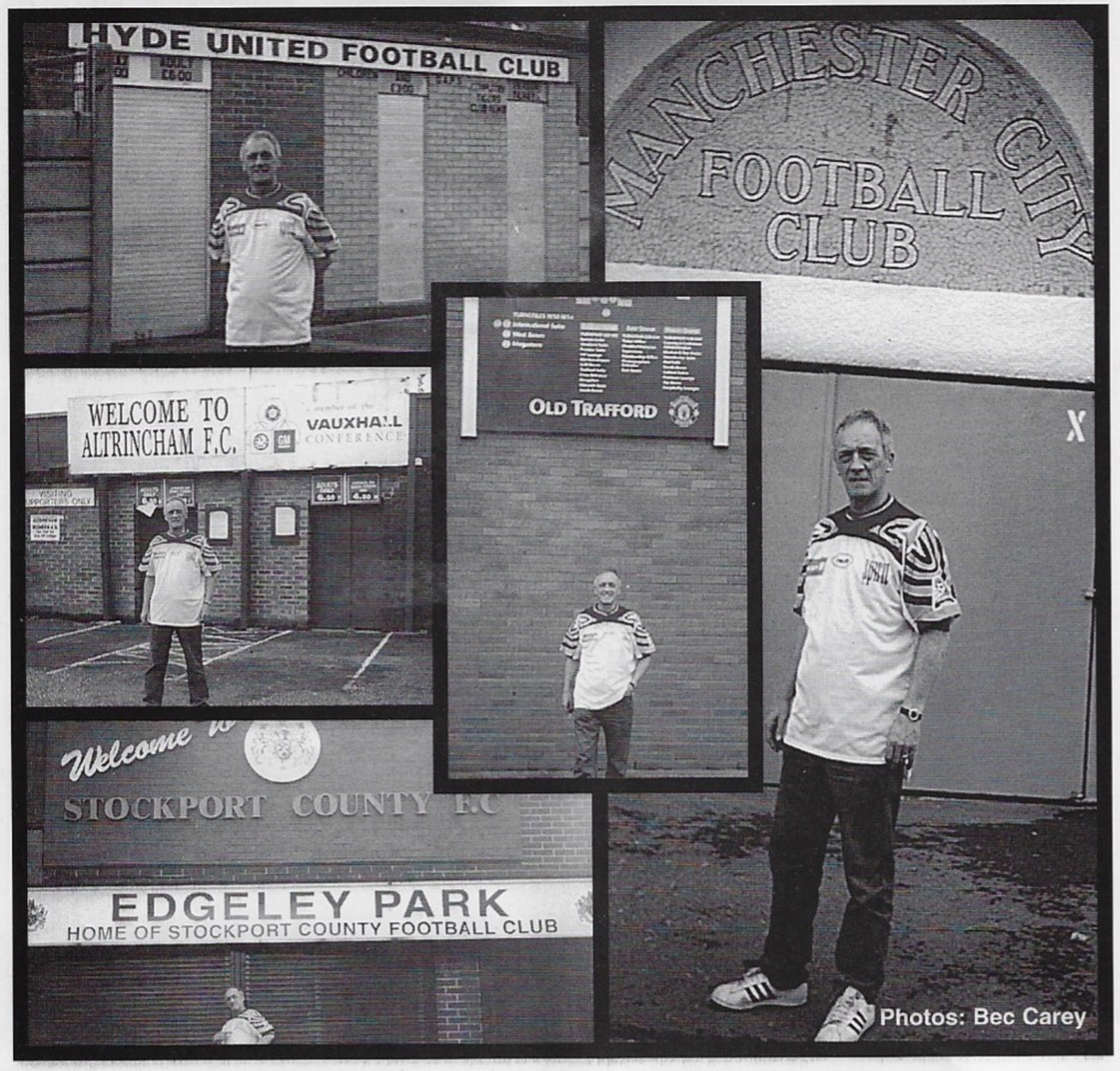
spirit around the globe

... and other places!

In an occasional article from time to time, we'll be bringing you shots of Spirit fans from around the world proudly displaying their colours, and we invite ALL Spirit supporters to send in photos, not necessarily from overseas, of themselves in strange or exotic locations or with famous personalities from the game (not Spirit players please unless it was several years ago).

This issue we bring you Pete Daulby, seen here at several football grounds in the north west of England - Cheshire and Lancashire to be precise - and the challenge is now on for you to show us where you have been seen wearing your Spirit shirt.

If you would like to see your handiwork displayed within these pages, send your photos in to: Spirit Around The Globe....and other places!, NSFC, C/- Micky Brock, 15 Ridge St., Nth Sydney, NSW 2060 (please enclose a stamped self-addressed envelope if you would like your photo returned).



Photos: Bec Carey

youth news

JESS VAN STRATTEN

NICKNAME:
Open to suggestion.....

HEIGHT:
190cm

WEIGHT:
78kg

DOB:
19/7/82

PLACE OF BIRTH:
Gosford, Australia

PREVIOUS CLUBS:
NSWIS, Central Coast Coasties

LAST CLUB PLAYED FOR:
NSWIS

REP HONOURS:
NSW u/14, U/15, Joeys

BIGGEST INFLUENCE ON CAREER:
Parents & Darryl Darke

BIGGEST DISAPPOINTMENT:
Losing the World Youth Cup Final to Brazil

FAV FOOTBALL MEMORY:
Making that Final

FAV MOMENT OF LAST SEASON:
Signing for Spirit

MOST MEMORABLE GOAL:
The one I keep a clean sheet in

PERSONAL MOTIVATION:
Enjoyment for the game

WORDS OF ADVICE:
Aspire to climb as high as you can dream

AMBITION IN FOOTBALL:
To play overseas

HOBBIES/INTERESTS:
Surfing, Golf, Girls

FAV DRINK:
Water

FAV TV SHOW:
South Park

FAV MOVIE:
Shawshank Redemption

FAV MUSIC:
Anything

NATIONAL YOUTH LEAGUE 1999/2000 UPDATE

Syd Utd Yth	F	NS Youth	F*	AIS	1	NS Youth	2
Newc Colts	2	NS Youth	3	Marconi Yth	3	NS Youth	2
NS Youth	1	Newctle Yth	0	Syd Oly Acad	2	NS Youth	6
NSWIS	1	NS Youth	1	NS Youth	1	Syd Utd Colts	2
NS Youth	1	Syd Oly Yth	2	ACTAS	2	NS Youth	2
Wollongong	0	NS Youth	1	NS Youth	2	QAS	1
NS Youth	4	NS Colts	1	*United forfeit game**			

NORTHERN DIVISION TABLE

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Parra Power	13	10	2	1	35	7	32
Syd Olympic	12	9	3	0	37	8	30
AIS	13	9	2	2	51	14	29
QAS	15	9	1	5	41	23	28
Newcastle Brks	14	8	1	5	27	16	25
NS Youth	12	7	2	3	26	17	23
Marconi Stal	12	7	0	5	19	19	21
ACTAS	13	5	4	4	22	27	19
NSWIS	13	5	3	5	23	15	18
Sydney Utd	10	5	1	4	18	18	16
Syd Oly Acad	13	5	0	8	29	47	15
Newcastle Colts	14	4	1	9	18	30	13
NS Colts	12	3	2	7	14	30	11
Marconi Colts	13	2	4	7	21	33	10
Wollongong	12	3	1	8	12	26	10
Syd Utd Colts	14	2	2	10	13	36	8
Wollongong Colts	11	0	1	10	7	47	1

YOUTH TEAM APPEARANCES 1999/2000

	Aps	Sub	Gls	Y/C	R/C
J Perosh*	3	-	-	-	-
A Snyder	6	-	2	1	-
E Olic	13	-	-	1	-
R Griffiths	11	-	3	1	-
J Sobczyk	3	-	-	1	-
A Griffiths	6	-	-	-	-
J Monie	9	3	4	1	-
D Kane	9	2	1	1	-
T MacRae	10	2	1	3	-
S Catanzaro	9	-	1	2	(1)
R Kethel	11	-	-	5	-
S Miller	11	1	1	2	-
A Faria	1	-	-	-	-
P Antar	-	7	-	-	-
A Israel	-	1	-	-	-
C Sharp*	1	-	-	-	-
P Bilokapic	4	-	4	-	-
D Culina	5	-	1	-	-
M Cunico	2	-	-	-	-
J Hamilton	1	1	-	-	-
P Henderson*	7	-	-	-	-
P Moss	3	-	-	-	-
M Prentice	6	-	-	1	-
D Brickell	2	2	-	-	-
S Lyons	1	-	-	-	-
D Seal	3	-	4	-	-
S Cranney	2	-	-	-	-
J Van Stratten*	2	-	-	-	-
A Bofiel	-	1	-	-	-
T Perinich	1	-	-	-	-
P Wearne	1	-	-	-	-

* Goalkeepers

results & fixture changes

Round Thirteen Results

Sth Melbourne*	1	(Curcija 83p)	*Wollongong Wolves**	*1*	*(Young 36p)*
Adelaide Force	2	(Vidmar 30, Mori 67)	*Football Kingz*	*0*	
Canberra Cosmos	**1**	**(Polak 50)**	***Northern Spirit***	***3***	***(Perinich 2,73, Bingley 81)***
Brisbane Strikers	1	(Harris 56)	*Wollongong City*	*1*	*(Petrovski 29)*
Parramatta Power	1	(Angelucci 43)	*Sydney Olympic*	*2*	*(Tome 12, Zorbas 71)*
Sydney United	0		*South Melbourne*	*2*	*(Curcija 60, Coveny 66)*
Perth Glory	1	(Boutsianis 62)	*Marconi Stallions*	*0*	
Carlton	0		*Newcastle Breakers*	*0*	
Melbourne Knights	0		*Gippsland Falcons*	*1*	*(MacNicol 18)*

**Round Fifteen brought forward*

Round Fourteen

Newcastle Breakers	1	(Moore 2)	*Sydney United*	*0*	
Sydney Olympic	1	(Cardozo 74)	*Perth Glory*	*1*	*(Boutsianis 33)*
Wollongong Wolves	4	(Masi 2,10,58, Chipperfield 56)	*Parramatta Power*	*3*	*(Burns 7, Byrnes 16, Sterjovski 72)*
Northern Spirit	**0**		***Brisbane Strikers***	***2***	***(McLaren 20, Grierson 29)***
Gippsland Falcons	1	(Hutchinson 50)	*Adelaide Force*	*1*	*(Pelosi 52)*
Marconi Stallions	3	(Trajanovski 46, Karl 86,90)	*Melbourne Knights*	*0*	
Football Kingz	3	(Silva 31, De Jong 49, Bunce 68)	*Canberra Cosmos*	*1*	*(Musitano 82)*

FIXTURE CHANGES

R14 Sth Melbourne v Carlton to be played 1st March 2000
R15- Northern Spirit v Sydney United kick-off at 8.00pm (NSO)
R15- Marconi Stallions v Parramatta Power kick-off at 5.00pm (BP)
R15- Carlton v Football Kingz to kick-off at 8.15pm (OP)
R16- Newcastle Breakers v Sth Melbourne now to be played on Wednesday, 2nd February. Kick-off at 7.30pm (BS)
R16- Parramatta Power v Football Kingz - Details to be announced
R16- Wollongong Wolves v Carlton to kick-off at 5.00pm (BrP)
R17- Perth Glory v Football Kingz to be played on Sunday, 26th March 2000. Kick-off at 4.00pm (PO)
R18- Gippsland Falcons v Parramatta Power to kick-off at 6.00pm (FS)
R19- Parra Power v Northern Spirit to be played on Sat, 29th January 2000 at Parra Stadium. Kick-off at 7.30pm
R21- Parramatta Power v Adelaide Force to be played on Saturday, 2nd February 2000. Kick-off at 7.30pm (PS)
R21- Carlton v Marconi Stallions to be played on Sunday, 13th February 2000. Kick-off at 6.00pm (OP)
R23- Carlton v Adelaide Force to be played on Sunday, 27th February 2000. Kick-off at 6.00pm. (OP)
R29- Sydney United v Carlton to kick-off at 4.00pm (EP)

National Look

Australia U/23 (Olyroos) v Nigeria	9th January 2000
Australia U/23 (Olyroos) v Egypt	12th January 2000
Australia U/23 (Olyroos) v Korean Rep	15th January 2000

Above matches to be played in Adelaide

World Club Championship - Rio de Janeiro, Brazil

South Melbourne v Vasco da Gama (Brazil)	4th January 2000
South Melbourne v Necaxa (Mexico)	8th January 2000
South Melbourne v Man United (England)	11th January 2000

Finals Series 13th & 14th January 2000

NEXT SPIRIT MATCHES

Northern Spirit v Perth Glory Friday, 14th January 2000. Kick-off 7.30pm (North Sydney Oval)
NS Youth v Sydnet Utd, Saturday, 8th January 2000. Kick-off 4.30pm (Christie Park)
NS Colts v Marconi Colts, Satday, 8th January 2000. Kick-off 6.30pm (Christie Park)

team news

with Dave Mason

There was a lot of talk about Tony Perinich being hailed as the saviour in front of goal for Northern Spirit after he scored twice in our 3-1 win over Canberra.

Tony missed almost 18 months through knee and ankle problems and is starting to get back to where he was before joining the club.

Northern Spirit has no doubts he will continue to find the back of the net but pressure from outside the club for him to find the net is not needed.

Tony is a great player and he will start scoring regularly for us. We just have to let it happen, not talk it up!

Former Northern Spirit player Eddy Bosnar has settled in nicely with today's opponents Sydney United, but he will not be on the field to take on his former teammates.

Bozza has caught the eye of Olyroo Coach Raul Blanco and is in Adelaide with the Olyroos as they take part in a four nation's tournament.

Also in Adelaide is former Spirit player Clayton Zane, who travelled back from Norway for the tournament as part of his preparations for the Sydney 2000 Olympic Games.

Robbie Enes has been stranded just one match short of completing his 100th game in the National Soccer League.

Ines is expected to miss another three matches, meaning his 100th game will probably be when Northern Spirit takes on Carlton at North Sydney Oval on Australia Day (Jan 26) or Parramatta Power two days later at Parramatta Stadium.

As everyone tries to work out the problems we are having playing at home a few of the players have come up with a theory; "North Sydney Oval is cursed".

It may be clutching at straws but the North Sydney Bears went 80-odd years without winning a premiership, North Sydney Cricket club wins more games away than they do at North Sydney Oval and the North Shore AFL team returned to North Sydney Oval and couldn't win a game.

Kappa

Kappa proud new team wear sponsors of Northern Spirit.
New jersey is now avaliable from the following stores:

Action Sports Player - Warriewood
Sportscene - Campbelltown, Penrith, North Ryde, Fairfield, Hornsby
Soccer City - Rockdale
Team Fever - Parramatta
Paul's Warehouse - Homebush
Rebel - Broadway, Chatswood, Sydney City, Brookvale
Insport - North Sydney
Grace Bros - Sydney City, Brookvale, Chatswood, Miranda, Macquarie

colt news

MATTHEW SUTTON

NICKNAME:
Sutters
HEIGHT:
179cm
WEIGHT:
80kg
DOB:
26/10/82
PLACE OF BIRTH:
Westmead, Sydney
PREVIOUS CLUBS:
Blacktown, Macarthur Rams, Westfield Sports High
LAST CLUB PLAYED FOR:
Macarthur Rams
REP HONOURS:
NSW tour of Japan, Westfield tour of England and Holland
BIGGEST INFLUENCE ON CAREER:
Parents and current coach - Trevor Morgan
BIGGEST DISAPPOINTMENT:
Being knocked out playing against Ajax and winning the Commonwealth Bank Cup, which we won again this year
FAV FOOTBALL MEMORY:
Beating Leeds 5-2 on Westfield tour and scoring in the next game against the local county team
FAV MOMENT OF LAST SEASON:
Being selected for Spirit and winning the CBA Cup
MOST MEMORABLE GOAL:
Scoring the equaliser with a header in the CBA Cup final with a minute to go, which we went on to win 6-5 on penalties
PERSONAL MOTIVATION:
My parents and love of playing the game
WORDS OF ADVICE:
Never give up and enjoy training/playing
AMBITION IN FOOTBALL:
To play at the highest level possible and overseas
HOBBIES/INTERESTS:
Surfing, hanging around with my mates and going to parties
FAV DRINK:
Fanta
FAV TV SHOW:
Channel V and Fox Sports
FAV MOVIE:
Beavis & Butthead do America / Endless Summer 2
FAV MUSIC:
Grunge, Punk and Heavy Metal

NATIONAL YOUTH LEAGUE 1999/2000

COLTS UPDATE

Syd Utd Yth	0	NS Colts	0
NS Colts	4	Newctle Colts	1
Newctle Yth	1	NS Colts	0
NS Colts	2	NSWIS	1
Syd Olympic	1	NS Colts	1
NS Colts	1	NS Youth	4
Marconi Colts	4	NS Colts	1
AIS	8	NS Colts	0
NS Colts	0	Marc Stal	3
NS Colts	3	Syd Oly Acad	2
NS Colts	0	Syd Utd Colts	0
NS Colts	1	ACTAS	2
NS Colts	1	QAS	3

COLTS APPEARANCES

	Aps	Sub	Gls	Y/C	R/C
M Nelson*	2	2	-	-	-
C Sharpe*	6	-	-	-	-
D Anderson	11	-	-	2	-
C Jones	13	-	3	2	-
P Wearne	6	-	-	2	(1)
G McLean	8	2	1	1	-
A Monteleone	7	1	-	3	-
N Vasili	13	-	1	1	-
A Snyder	4	-	2	1	-
L Berbis	12	-	1	2	-
C Talevski	7	4	-	2	-
A Faria	3	-	1	-	-
J Majurovski	10	3	2	-	-
R Enes	1	-	-	1	-
M Cunico	3	-	1	-	-
T Perenich	2	-	1	1	-
N Foti	5	4	1	-	-
M Sutton	5	3	-	2	-
P Dougheney*	1	-	-	-	-
I Church	7	1	-	3	-
A Saginian	-	3	-	-	1
D Culina	1	-	-	-	-
A Griffiths	1	-	-	-	-
D Watkins	2	1	-	-	-
S Teofilo	2	2	-	-	-
S Lyons	3	-	-	1	-
J Schirripa	2	1	-	-	-
P Henderson*	2	-	-	-	-
A Zammit	-	2	-	-	-
N Moulds	-	1	-	-	-
J Van Stratten*	2	-	-	-	-
P Moss	1	-	-	-	-
S Cranney	1	-	-	1	-

* Goalkeepers

our visitors tonight

with Micky Brock

SYDNEY UNITED

David Ratcliffe returned to NSL football as the coach of struggling Sydney United this season and without a team, most of last seasons players heading off the short distance to Parramatta Stadium with former coach David Mitchell, has managed to rebuild the side from scratch using many former State League performers.

Velimir Kupresak has become a permanent fixture in the United side and celebrated the fact by becoming the clubs all time record appearance holder in the game against Parramatta Power in Round 12, losing one-two to the visiting team at Edensor Park. His contribution to the side over the last nine years has been exemplary and not to be underestimated. A painter and decorator by trade, Kupresak has seen many United sides dismantled over the years. Gone are the likes of Zdrillic, Milicic, Kalac, Marusic, Rudan, Bilokapic, Ardone, Enes, Crews, Barrett to name but a few.

Ante Moric has returned to his old stomping ground of Edensor Park after a brief spell overseas and is starting to rekindle the form he showed prior to his departure. And so has Eddie Bosnar who played for Spirit last term but has returned to his former club this season.

Many of the players this evening are up against their old sides: Robbie Slater, Mark Rudan, Robbie Enes (who spent several happy seasons with the club), Graham Arnold (if selected) and Paul Bilokapic have all plied their trade out west and, to a lesser degree, so has Dean Culina.

United had the Indian sign over Spirit last term in winning both fixtures, albeit fortuitously at Spirit Park with a late winner scored by Joel Griffiths, but the tide turned on the opening day of the new campaign when Spirit recorded a 2-nil win away from home.

Sydney United have had a minor reputation for crowd trouble in the past and this was evident last season when they visited Spirit Park. We ask ALL fans that this situation is not allowed to arise again, but it has to be said that the United officials have been working very hard to eradicate this problem and it was a pleasure to visit Edensor Park this season and enjoy an atmosphere of friendly rivalry. Long may that continue.

SPIRIT HEAD TO HEAD

	P	W	D	L	F	A
HOME	1	0	0	1	1	2
AWAY	2	1	0	1	2	1